

Appl. No. 10/637,160  
Amdt. dated June 24, 2005  
Reply to Office action of March 24, 2005  
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### **REMARKS**

The June 24, 2005 Amendment filed by Applicant was determined to be non-compliant for failing to meet requirements of 37 CFR 1.121.

Claims 1 and 18 have been amended to include the proper status identifier "Currently Amended" and claim 18 has been further amended to include the limitations of canceled claim 16. Accordingly, withdrawal of the notice of non-compliant amendment and entry and consideration of the Amendment is requested.

The claims are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated or alternatively obvious under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over United States Patent No. 4,273,137 issued to Pravoverov et al. The present invention relates to a medical electrical lead. The lead comprises "a lead body including an elongated insulated conductor and an electrode coupled to the conductor." "[A] non-rigid tether extend[s] distally from the electrode and include[s] a first end and a second end." "[T]he first end of the tether coupled to the lead body; and a tissue anchor coupled to the second end of the tether." "[T]he anchor include[s] a surface for receiving a push force from an insertion tool adapted to insert the anchor within a segment of tissue so that the electrode is positioned in close proximity to the tissue." "[T]he anchor consists of a bioabsorbable material."

The Office Action states that Pravoverov shows a lead with a flexible braid 2 and a contact tip 5. The USPTO concedes that Pravoverov does not disclose, teach or suggest an anchor that consists of a bioabsorbable material. Instead, the USPTO asserts that certain elements of the Applicant's invention are "well known." Applicant respectfully requests that the USPTO provide a reference that shows these elements and explain the motivation to combine the references.

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by United States Patent No. 5,217,027 issued to Hermens et al. Hermens also fails to disclose, teach or suggest an anchor that consists of a bioabsorbable material. Withdrawal of the rejections to the claims is respectfully requested.

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Finally, as suggested by the Examiner, claims 17, 18 and 26 are rewritten as new claims 27-29 respectively. It is believed that all claims are now allowable and such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date



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